(a) whether court cases arising from cyber crimes are on the increase in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof with the number of such cases filed and disposed of during the last three years;

(c) whether one of the causes for delay in disposal of cyber related cases is the lack of awareness among the judiciary about the cyber crimes and laws;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to train the judicial officers in cyber crimes and laws; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) With the increase of users on Internet, wrong doings in cyber space are also increasing. The information on court cases including cyber crimes is categorized as civil and criminal. The criminal law is administered by courts in States; the exact figures on cyber crime cases filed and disposed of during the last three years are not available.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Government conducts regular awareness and training programmes on cyber laws and cyber crimes for Judicial Officers.

National Judicial Academy at Bhopal also conducts programmes to train Judges in cyber laws and cyber crimes. 43 Judges participated in each of the workshop conducted by the Academy in 2004 and 2006.

Misuse of internet services by cyber cafes

294. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many cyber cafes are misusing internet services by putting obscene pictures and details on websites;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of complaints received so far and the action taken in this regard;

(d) the steps taken to stop misuse of websites in the country; and

(e) the remedies which are available to stop this practice in other countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) The primary responsibility for registration and investigation of crimes at cyber cafe's lies with the State Governments. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), which maintains the national crime data, the State/UT-wise cases of obscene publication/transmission in electronic form reported under Section 67 of Information Technology Act during 2003, 2004 and 2005 are 21, 34 and 88 respectively. However NCRB does not maintain specific information regarding misuse of Internet services by cyber cafe's by putting obscene pictures and details on websites.

(d) The Information Technology Act, 2000 together with the Indian Penal Code, 1860 provides legal framework for countering misuse of websites in the country.

(e) Every country addresses the matter within their legal framework.

Corruption in BSNL

†295. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to negligence and corruption prevalent in public sector telecommunication company particularly the BSNL, the number of its basic phone consumers has declined;

(b) whether it is also a fact that private comanies are directly benefited from such situation;

(c) if not, the comparative details of public sector and private sector companies for the last two years, State-wise; and

(d) whether Government propose to conduct an inquiry by a high powered agency into corruption prevailing in BSNL particularly in Bihar circle?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) No, Sir. Number of basic phone consumers in public sector telecommunication

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.